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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors: Ecker, Griffey, Sampath, Hofstadler, McNeil, Crooke,

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Serial No.: 09/891,793

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Examiner: Fredman, Jeffrey Norman

Title: METHODS FOR PROVIDING BACTERIAL BIOAGENT

CHARACTERIZING INFORMATION

I cortify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to 571-273-8300 or deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Permela Grooms

MAIL STOP AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED 09/13/2006

In response to the Office Action mailed September 13, 2006, please accept the following:

- Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.
- Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.